



# FOREIGN AFFAIRS MANUAL

## VOLUME 9 – Visas

Transmittal Letter: VISA-323

Date: October 10, 2001

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### **9 FAM 41.54 REGS/STATUTES AND NOTES, 9 FAM 41.58 REGS/STATUTES AND NOTES, 9 FAM 41.59 REGS/STATUTES, NOTES AND PROCEDURAL NOTES, 9 FAM 41.61 REGS/STATUTES, NOTES, AND PROCEDURAL NOTES**

### **MAJOR CHANGES**

1. Changes in format for the Regulations and related Statutory Provisions (which were published as “white pages”) will now be shown as a reference to the related regulatory and statutory cite as sections are updated.
2. 9 FAM 41.54 Notes, adds clarification that Ls can come on short term assignments.
3. 9 FAM 41.58 Notes, changed date in N1(b) to read September 30, 2003, add correction to N10 and add new information on religious vocation vs. religious occupation.
4. 9 FAM 41.59 Notes, submits new information on NAFTA and new information in Procedural Notes pertaining to petition approval.
5. 9 FAM 41.61 Notes, added new and/or updated information and information on ESL and returning students. Procedural Notes PN3 is new.

6. Revisions since the last update appear in italics. Other than formal titles, the italics will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italics. Italics provide a historical record of changes.

7. Under the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277, the functions of the U.S. Information Agency related to international broadcasting are transferred to the Broadcasting Board of Governors. Accordingly, all provisions of the FAM previously applicable to USIA continue in effect with respect to the BBG until further notice.

8. Officers are reminded that Department-issued materials not codified in the *Foreign Affairs Manual* or its supplemental *Foreign Affairs Handbook* series generally have no regulatory validity (see 2 FAM 1115.2).

## **FILING INSTRUCTIONS (Paper Copies)**

1. Remove 9 FAM 41.54 Regs/Statutes (1 page). (TL:VISA-153, 09-10-96, 6 pages) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.54 Regs/Statutes (1 page). Remove 9 FAM 41.54 Notes (TL:VISA-73, 02-05-93, 28 pages) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.54 Notes (30 pages). Remove 9 FAM 41.58 Regs/Statutes (TL:VISA-168, 08-08-97, 5 pages) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.58 Regs/Statutes (1 page). Remove old 9 FAM 41.58 Notes (TL:VISA-58, 04-30-92; 13 pages); and insert revised 9 FAM 41.58 Notes (15 pages). Remove 9 FAM 41.59 Regs/Statutes (TL:VISA-177, 04-30-98, 4 pages) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.59 Regs/Statutes (1 page). Insert the new 9 FAM 41.59 Notes 12 pages). Insert the new 9 FAM 41.59 Procedural Notes 3 pages). Remove 9 FAM 41.61 Regs/Statutes (TL:VISA-268, 04-26-01, 1 page) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.61 Regs/Statutes (1 page). Remove 9 FAM 41.61 Notes (TL:VISA-268, 04-26-01, 26 pages) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.61 Notes (27 pages). Remove 9 FAM 41.61 Procedural Notes (TL:VISA-2, 08-30-87, 1 page) and insert revised 9 FAM 41.61 Procedural Notes (2 pages).

2. After inserting the material in the binder, insert this transmittal letter immediately following the TL Checklist, then fill in the entry line for TL:VISA-323, and initial.

## **DISTRIBUTION NOTICE**

1. The *Foreign Affairs Manual and Handbooks* (unclassified) official version can be found on State Department's Intranet site at <http://10.4.64.84>.

2. All posts and offices keeping paper versions of the *Foreign Affairs Manual* are responsible for maintaining the FAM on a current basis (see 2 FAM 1116.5), and for ensuring that all copies (including binders) are either retained or returned to A/RPS/DIR if no longer needed. **When returning excess or unused materials include your office/post symbols and inform MMS/PB and your message center if you need to have your distribution reduced** (this generally applies only to time-sensitive paper issuances). A/RPS/MMS/PRD, Room 1853, 202-736-7470, FAX 202-647-4535, handles all requests for paper copies, including non-Government users (include either fiscal information or payment with request, as appropriate).

3. Use KFAM and AINF TAGS on **all** communications on FAM/FAH issues; direct questions concerning issuance, validity, and updating to A/RPS/DIR. Direct questions concerning substance and interpretations to [the 9 FAM Volume Coordinator, who may be reached at the office indicated at the end of this transmittal letter].

**(CA/VO/L/R)**